

**LISTENING/ SPEAKING/MEMORY**

- **Où est...?** —Where is...?
- **Il est...** = It is...
- **Pour aller à...** — to go to...
- **Combien?** = How much?
- **A quelle heure?** = At what time?
- **Comment vas-tu au collège?** - How do you get to school?

**DIVERSITY**

- There similarities between French and English e.g. le bus = bus
- There are also 'faux amis' = false friends which we need to remember e.g. en car = by coach, en voiture = by car
- When we conjugating 'aller' = to go and 'faire' = to do in the present tense, we need to understand how their endings are irregular compared to those studied previously.

**WRITING/ MEMORY**

- **Aller** is followed by à la or au depending on the gender of the following noun.
- Adjectives are used to describe modes of transport. Size and length go before the noun, but others like colours go after.
- Far from (**loin de**) and near to (**près de**) are always followed by **de**.

**INSPIRATIONAL PEOPLE**

Albert Mathieu Favier designed the original plans for the Euro tunnel in 1802. His original plans included state of the art oil lamps and a carriageway for horse-drawn carriages. He also wanted an artificial island to be build at sea where horses could be changed for the second leg of the journey.

Francois Mitterand (October 1916 – January 1996) was President of France from 1981 to 1995 - the longest holder of that position in the history of France. He is known for signing the deal to build the Channel Tunnel with UK Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. The Treaty of Canterbury was signed on 12 February, 1986, enabling the undersea railway tunnels to be built. Construction of the tunnels started the following year, with rail services beginning in 1994.

CAREERS

- Civil engineers played a crucial role in the development of the Channel Tunnel.
- Civil engineers are professionals who design, construct and maintain infrastructure projects, ensuring they are safe, efficient and sustainable. Engineers need to be good problem solvers and they earn on average £48,000 per year.
- Design engineers, draftsmen, construction engineers, construction workers, plant operators, surveyors and solicitors were also heavily involved in the design and construction of the tunnel.

**Key facts:**

- The chosen design for the Eurotunnel was a joint design by a French and British company and consists of 3 tunnels: two for rail traffic and a central tunnel for maintenance and ventilation.
- The Channel Tunnel is 50.45km long, making it the 22nd longest tunnel in the world and the third longest used by rail passengers. It is the longest undersea tunnel in the world and, at its deepest point, is 115m below sea level.
- Engineers decided to build the tunnel through the Chalk Marl layer of rock under the sea bed, due to its strength and stability making it ideal for underwater construction.
- The tunnel was officially opened on May 6th 1994 by Queen Elizabeth II and Francois Mitterand.
- An average of 50,000 passengers pass through the tunnel each day, along with 3,500 trucks, 140 coaches and 6,000 cars.
- It takes 35 minutes to travel the length of the Channel Tunnel, with trains travelling around 160km/hour.
- The Channel Tunnel now connects London to several European cities, including Paris, Brussels and Lille.

Key vocabulary and meanings

Aller - to go, **Faire** - to do, **les directions** - the directions, **Les moyens de transport** - the modes of transport, **en train** – by train, ***à droite** - to the right, ***à gauche** - to the left